## Message Text

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**ORIGIN EA-06** 

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 INR-05 L-01 H-01 NSC-05 NSCE-00

CIAE-00 /033 R

P 120008Z FEB 76 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY

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LIMDIS

CORRECTED COPY(INVALID INSERTION PARA 2 LINE 6).

E.O. 11652, ;/A

TAGS: PINS, KS, US

SUBJECT: ROKG ACTIVITIES WITHIN U.S.

1. ON FEBRUARY 10 ASSISTANT SECRETARY HABIB CALLED IN ROK AMBASSADOR HAHM TO DISCUSS THE COMPLAINT RECEIVED FROM DAYTON UNIVERSITY FACULTY MEMBER, PROFESSOR T. S. RHEE. RHEE COMPLAINED ABOUT "INDIRECT THREATS" ALLEGEDLY MADE BY KOREAN EMBASSY POLITICAL COUNSELOR YOO CHONG-HA IN FEBRUARY 2 PHONE CALL TO THE ACADEMICIAN. THE CASE HAD BEEN REFERRED TO THE DEPARTMENT BY CONGRESSMAN FRASER'S STAFF.

2. HAHM AND YOO EXPLAINED CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE TELEPHONE CALL, STRESSING THAT YOO HAD NEITHER INTENDED NOR MADE ANY THREATS TO RHEE. YOO EMPHASIZED THAT CALL HAD BEEN PERLIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SONAL ONE TO RHEE WHO WAS A FRIEND FROM HIS UNIVERSITY

DAYS IN WHICH RHEE INTRODUCED DTSCSSTON OF ROK DOMESTIC MATTERS. HAHM SAID

EMBASSY FULLY AWARE OF POSSIBILITY MISINTERPRETATION OF ANY APPROACHES TO ROKG CRITICS BUT IN RHEE'S CASE, EMBASSY HAD NOT EVEN KNOWN RHEE SO ANTI-GOVERNMENT IN HIS SENTIMENTS. HABIB NOTED HAHM'S EXPLANATION AND SAID WE WOULD CONVEY IT TO COMMITTEE, NOTING THAT WE VIEW MATTER AS NOW CLOSED.

3. DURING MEETING HABIB TOOK OCCASION TO POINT OUT TO HAHM THAT THERE IS STILL ATMOSPHERE OF PUBLIC SUSPICION ABOUT ROKG ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE U.S. AS HAHM AWARE, BOTH HIRC COMMITTEE STAFF AND FBI ARE ENGAGED IN INVESTIGATIONS OF ALLEGATIONS REGARDING KCIA ACTIVITIES IN THE U.S., PARTICULARLY LOS ANGELES. WHILE WE COULD MAKE NO JUDGMENT UNTIL INVESTIGATION IS COMPLETE, ROKG SHOULD BE AWARE THAT INVESTIGATION OF ALLEGATIONS REGARDING IMPROPER KCIA ACTIVITIES ARE UNDERWAY AND THAT IT QUITE LIKELY THAT FRASER'S SUBCOMMITTEE WILL HOLD HEARINGS.

4. FOR EMBASSY SEOUL: EMBASSY SHOULD NOT TAKE INITIATIVE IN RAISING MATTER OF HIRC/FBI INVESTIGATIONS. WE WISH TO KEEP FOCUS OF THIS MATTER IN WASHINGTON FOR THE PRESENT. HOWEVER, EMBASSY MAY CONFIRM OR DRAW ON HABIB'S REMARKS IF ROKG SENIOR OFFICIALS RAISE THIS SUBJECT. INGERSOLL

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## Message Attributes

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